

JUN 3 2004 12:38PM

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NO. 828 P. 1

1775

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of:

APPLICANT: Hashizume et al.

SERIAL NO.: 10/606,381

FILING DATE: June 24, 2003

EXAMINER: Cathy Lam

ART UNIT: 1775

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.: 884A.0006.U1(US)

TITLE: Method of Forming Patterns on Articles

Commissioner for Patents

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Mail Stop No Fee Amendment

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This paper is herewith filed in response to a telephone interview with the Examiner on 05/18/2004 wherein she imposed a three-way restriction against claims 1-41: Group I (claims 1-19 and 34-36); Group II (claims 20-33); and Group III (claims 37-41). In preparing to respond it was noted that claims 34-36 inadvertently refer to a "method", where they should have referred to a "moulded article". It is believed that this error caused these claims to be inadvertently included in Group I, and that they should have properly been included in Group II. The following preliminary amendment corrects this error.

Please amend the claims in the application as shown below.